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LETTER DATED 7 MARCH 1994 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter from Mr. Vladislav Jovanovic, Foreign Minister of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, addressed to you.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dragomir DJOKIC
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Annex

Following the repeated violations of the airspace of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia by North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) aircraft which have been occurring continually since the beginning of NATO's involvement in the control of the airspace of former Bosnia-Herzegovina, I wish to draw your attention to this very serious problem which causes deep concern to the Yugoslav Government and point to the following.

On 20 February 1994, at 2121 hours, two NATO aircraft violated the airspace of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the Boka Kotorska region. The aircraft flew at the altitude of 3 to 4 kilometres at the speed of about 720 kilometres per hour and left the territory of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the direction of Trebinje.

On 22 February 1994, at 1144 hours, one aircraft violated the airspace of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the Boka Kotorska region at a depth of about 10 kilometres, and at noon in the region of the village of Jamena at a depth of about 5 kilometres, flying at the altitude of about 19,600 metres and at the speed of 720 to 880 kilometres per hour.

On 22 February 1994, the airspace of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia was violated three times between 2020 and 2126 hours: between 2020 and 2112 hours in the area of the town of Užice, between 2034 and 2115 hours in the area of the towns of Užice and Kraljevo and between 2119 and 2126 hours in the area of the town of Peć.

On 25 February 1994, the airspace of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia was violated between 1038 and 1041 hours in the Boka Kotorska region at a depth of 20 kilometres and between 1102 and 1103 hours in the area of the village of Jamena at a depth of 3 kilometres. The aircraft flew at the altitude of 17 kilometres and at a speed of 780 kilometres per hour.

I take this opportunity to draw your attention to the fact that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has repeatedly warned the competent representatives of the United Nations peace-keeping forces in the former Yugoslavia of the seriousness of this problem, as it sought to overcome it through negotiations and agreement. Regrettably, all our initiatives have remained without an answer.

The said violations of the airspace of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia constitute a violation of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of my country and a threat to its security. At the same time, these violations serve to put additional pressure on the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia within the threats meted out continually to the entire Serb people. We are particularly concerned at the fact that all this is being done under United Nations auspices and that no measures have been taken so far to stop these provocations. If these violations continue, they can cause accidents with unforeseeable consequences for the security not only of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia but of the entire Balkans, including the ongoing peace process aimed at ending the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

I am confident that you share my opinion that it is of utmost importance at this juncture to overcome this problem as early as possible. Your Excellency is kindly requested to take adequate measures within the United Nations and with the NATO command to prevent these dangerous provocations from happening all over again. Your positive attitude towards this problem would be highly appreciated, as well as your early advice on the measures taken.

(Signed) Vladislav JOVANOVIĆ